

HEADQUARTERS NEW JERSEY ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

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ARMY BULLETIN NO. 22

27 March 2003

CLARIFICATION OF "GOOD STANDING" CLAUSE OF THE NJ NG TUITION PROGRAM (G1-DPCS-ESO)

1. References:

- a. New Jersey Statutes Annotated (N.J.S.A.): 18A: 62-24, 18A: 62-25, 18A: 2-26: "Any member of the New Jersey Army National Guard shall be permitted to attend an institution of higher education provided that: 1. The *member has completed Initial Active Duty Training.* 2. <u>Is in good standing</u> as an active member of the New Jersey National Guard."
 - b. AR 135-91 Chapter 4, para 4-12b dated 1 September 2000
 - c. AR 600-8-2, dated 30 October 1987
- 2. Background. Determination of what it means to be a member in good standing is unclear. The Tuition Program has long been a primary incentive for soldiers to enlist into and remain a member of the New Jersey National Guard. It has been provided through the generosity of the citizens of the State of New Jersey in grateful recognition of the sacrifices and contributions of Guard members. Commanders must safeguard the integrity of the benefit in order to maintain it for future members. In order to guide unit Commanders, the following information is provided: For Army National Guard purposes, the provisions of AR 135-91 Chapter 4 paragraph 12b will be used as guidance for the unit commander in determining eligibility for the program. This paragraph outlines in detail those soldiers who should be considered unsatisfactory participants, and therefore, not in good standing as it applies to the statute. A Commander must also insure that a soldier is not under a suspension of favorable personnel action (flags) pending adverse administrative reduction, or any other reason stated in paragraph 1-12 AR 600-8-2.
- 3. In the event a soldier ceases to meet the criteria of good standing, the unit will contact the Education Services Officer (ESO) in order to terminate the tuition (NJNGTP) benefit. After receipt of documentation from the unit outlining the circumstances concerning the soldier's status, the ESO will contact the soldier's educational institution. Units do not contact the school directly to terminate benefits.
- 4. POC: LTC Anthony Formica at 609 562-0654, 2LT Janet Francis at 609-562-0714 or 2LT Benjamin Stoner at 609 562-0975.

OFFICIAL:

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